



FIND4NOW™

On farm quick test

Q & A

ABOUT FIND4NOW

Q: What is the purpose of Find4Now?

A: The purpose of Find4Now is to create awareness about the four pathogens tested. Find4Now is not a diagnostic veterinary kit, but an awareness tool. Find4Now will not be used directly for release and performance of products or documentation of efficiency.

Q: How has Find4Now been validated?

A: Find4Now has been validated by the manufacturer of the kit, Bio-X Diagnostics S.A. In addition, Chr. Hansen has validated Find4Now for the two *E. coli* pathogens.

Q: Is Find4Now for sale?

A: Find4Now is not for sale but is meant as a support to Chr. Hansen business partners and customers.

PATHOGENS TESTED

Q: Why are the four pathogens relevant?

A: Enterotoxigenic *E. coli* (ETEC) with the two fimbria types F4 and F18 are major causes for development of post-weaning diarrhea. ETEC F4 is in addition causing neonatal diarrhea in sucking piglets. Both *Clostridium perfringens* and *Clostridium difficile* are known agents causing neonatal diarrhea in sucking piglets.

WHEN TO USE FIND4NOW

Q: When should you use Find4Now?

A: Intended use is for indication only, not diagnosis and to initiate a conversation about enteric health and to emphasize that enteric disease is not necessarily feed related.

Q: How often should you do the test?

A: The objective of Find4Now is to create awareness of the pathogens tested and to initiate a conversation. Therefore, the test does not need to be repeated regularly.

SAMPLING

Q: Is it recommended to test individual or pooled feces samples?

A: It is recommended to test individual feces samples.

Q: Is it recommended to test dry or liquid feces?

A: If there is a high prevalence of liquid feces at the farm, it is recommended to test liquid feces. If this is not the case, dry feces can be tested to assess whether pathogens are present in high numbers, causing a risk of impaired performance.

RESULTS

Q: How many samples should you test to get a representative result?

A: The sampling protocol should be selected based on an assessment of the situation at the farm, to provide a relevant analysis. The following sample panel is recommended to get the representative result: a minimum of 5 individual feces samples.

Q: What does it mean when the result is positive?

A: It means that the specific pathogen is present at concentrations above 1×10^6 CFU/g feces. This number is considered as a threshold for a state where the pathogenic level can serve as potential risk for disease.

Q: What does it mean when the result is negative?

A: Such a result indicates that the four pathogens are not present in that specific sample at concentrations above 1×10^6 CFU/g feces. Other pathogens than the four tested may be present in the feces. If the tested fecal samples are liquid and prevalence of diarrhea is in general high, the veterinarian should be consulted to do diagnostics.

Q: I don't see any diarrhea, so what does it mean if the test is still positive?

A: The tested pathogens can be present in intestinal content without causing diarrhea. An effective immune system including a strong intestinal barrier can reduce the damaging effect of the four pathogens. All four pathogens need to attach to the epithelial barrier to cause damage. Probiotic bacteria can prevent pathogen attachment and thus prevent damaging pathogenesis.

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